

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

District of Minnesota

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

Case No. 13-MJ-226-FLW

ANTONIO CERON-SANTOS and
AVIMAEI ARMENTA-HERNANDEZ

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

I, the undersigned complainant, being duly sworn, state the following is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. On or about March 28, 2013, in Ramsey County, in the State and District of Minnesota, Defendants possessed with intent to distribute 500 grams or more of a mixture and substance containing a detectable amount of methamphetamine,

in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(A).

I further state that I am a(n) and that this complaint is based on the following facts:

SEE ATTACHED AFFIDAVIT

Continued on the attached sheet and made a part hereof: ☒ Yes ☐ No



Complainant's signature

DEA Special Agent Terrence W. Olstad

Printed name and title

Sworn to before me and signed in my presence.

Date: 4/4/13



Judge's signature

City and state: Minneapolis, Minnesota

FRANKLIN L. NOEL, U.S. Magistrate Judge

Printed name and title



STATE OF MINNESOTA)

) ss. AFFIDAVIT OF TERRANCE W. OLSTAD

COUNTY OF HENNEPIN)

1. I am a Special Agent with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and have been so employed since 1996. I am currently assigned to the Minneapolis-St. Paul District Office and am charged with investigating drug trafficking and money laundering violations under Titles 18 and 21 of the United States Code. I am an investigator or law enforcement officer of the United States within the meaning of Section 2510(7) of Title 18, United States Code, that is, an officer of the United States who is empowered by law to conduct investigations of and to make arrests for offenses enumerated in Section 2516 of Title 18, United States Code. From approximately 1992 until 1996, I was a United States Border Patrol Agent. As an agent with the DEA, I received 16 weeks of specialized training pertaining to drug trafficking, money laundering, undercover operations and electronic and physical surveillance procedures. During my career, I have been involved in numerous investigations dealing with the possession, manufacture, distribution, and importation of controlled substances.

2. This Affidavit is submitted in support of a Complaint against the following individuals charging them with possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(A):

- a. Antonio CERON-SANTOS; and
- b. Avimael ARMENTA-HERNANDEZ.

The facts set forth herein are based on my personal observations, my review of police reports, as well as conversations I have had with other law enforcement personnel. The facts set forth herein do not include the complete facts related to this investigation, just those facts necessary to support the Complaint.

3. On March 27, 2013, an undercover officer met with CERON-SANTOS and ARMENTA-HERNANDEZ to negotiate the purchase of a large amount of methamphetamine. The meeting took place at a restaurant in Maplewood, in the State and District of Minnesota. During the meeting, the undercover officer negotiated to buy sixteen ounces of methamphetamine from CERON-SANTOS

and ARMENTA-HERNANDEZ for \$20,000.00. CERON-SANTOS and ARMENTA-HERNANDEZ agreed to deliver the methamphetamine the next day, March 28, 2013.

4. On March 28, 2013, the undercover officer made telephone contact with CERON-SANTOS to discuss final arrangements for the sale of methamphetamine. Ultimately, arrangements were made to meet at the parking lot of the same Maplewood restaurant where the UC had met CERON-SANTOS and ARMENTA-HERNANDEZ the day before. After the telephone conversation, surveillance observed CERON-SANTOS and ARMENTA-HERNANDEZ depart a residence located at 526 E. Curtice Street, St. Paul, Minnesota ("Curtice Residence") in a Ford Expedition registered to ARMENTA-HERNANDEZ. The Curtice Residence is in the State and District of Minnesota. Surveillance followed the Ford Expedition to the restaurant parking lot in Maplewood.

5. The Ford Expedition parked in the restaurant parking lot. CERON-SANTOS and ARMENTA-HERNANDEZ remained in the vehicle. Thereafter, the undercover officer got inside the Ford Expedition and met with CERON-SANTOS and ARMENTA-HERNANDEZ. The undercover officer was then shown the one pound of methamphetamine. After the undercover officer gave the signal that he had seen the methamphetamine, other law enforcement officers converged on the Ford Expedition to arrest CERON-SANTOS and ARMENTA-HERNANDEZ. The methamphetamine CERON-SANTOS and ARMENTA-HERNANDEZ showed the undercover officer was recovered. It weighed approximately one pound. The one pound was field tested, and it tested positive for the presence of methamphetamine.


6. Both CERON-SANTOS and ARMENTA-HERNANDEZ gave voluntary, post Miranda, statements. CERON-SANTOS admitted being involved in the trafficking of methamphetamine and further told agents that additional methamphetamine would be found at the Curtice Residence. CERON-SANTOS stated he worked for ARMENTA-HERNANDEZ and that ARMENTA-HERNANDEZ had recently returned from Arizona with a load of methamphetamine. ARMENTA-HERNANDEZ denied any knowledge or involvement in methamphetamine distribution.

7. Also on March 28, 2013, law enforcement officers obtained a search warrant for the Curtice Residence, including the garage, from a Ramsey County District

Court Judge. When law enforcement officers executed that warrant, they seized an additional five pounds of suspected methamphetamine. A drug ledger, or "pay and owe sheet," was seized from a basement bedroom, which was determined to belong to ARMENTA-HERNANDEZ.


8. Based on the foregoing, there is probable cause to believe that CERON-SANTOS and ARMENTA-HERNANDEZ possessed with the intent to distribute 500 grams or more of a mixture and substance containing a detectable amount of methamphetamine, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(A).

Further your Affiant sayeth not.


Special Agent Terrance W. Olstad
Drug Enforcement Administration

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME

This 4th day of April, 2013.


FRANKLIN L. NOEL
United States Magistrate Judge.